

Testimony of
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Government Administration & Elections (GAE) Committee

March 4, 2022

S.B. No. 184 (Raised) An Act Extending Through November 8, 2022, Several Changes Regarding Election Administration as a Result of Covid-19 and Concerning Eligibility to Vote by Absentee Ballot.

Dear Senator Flexor, Representative Fox and members of the Government Administration & Elections Committee;

My name is Mary Consoli, I live in Danbury CT, I am writing to ask you to support Senate Bill (Raised) 184 An Act Extending Through November 8, 2022, Several Changes Regarding Election Administration as a Result of Covid-19 and Concerning Eligibility to Vote by Absentee Ballot.

I am a retired registered nurse. Prior to my retirement in December 2017, I worked as a staff nurse at Danbury Hospital for 30 years. I worked in the Intensive Care Units, as an I.V. Therapist, on a Medical Surgical Unit and in the Physical Rehabilitation Unit. During these years I took care of patients with HIV, Sepsis and many communicable diseases, but never did I fear of contracting these diseases or bringing any of these diseases home to my family. This is not the situation with nurses' and other healthcare workers working in a hospital today. Over these past two years of caring for patients with Covid- 19, nurses' and healthcare workers not only feared of contracting the Virus themselves, but also feared bringing it home to their families, despite having all the personal protective equipment available. If healthcare workers are fearful and concerned about Covid and what Variants will come next, what about the general public?

This is why I am writing to ask you to support Raised SB 184. This bill allows COVID to be a valid reason to use absentee ballots for the November 2022 election. Your constituents need to be able to exercise their right to vote for elected officials in a safe manner.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Mary Consoli, RN BSN